

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Final Office Action mailed May 17, 2007, claims 1 – 5 and 11 – 16 are pending. Claims 1 – 5 are rejected and claims 11 – 16 were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. In response, Applicant files herewith a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and hereby requests reconsideration of the application in view of the amended claims and the below-provided remarks.

Election/Restriction

Claims 11 – 16 were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as being directed to a non-elected invention. Applicant points out that original claim 5 recited “A microcontroller, in particular an ‘embedded security controller’, comprising at least one circuit arrangement as claimed in claim 1.” New claim 16 similarly recites “A microcontroller comprising a security controller circuit.” Because claim 5, as originally filed, recited a microcontroller, Applicant asserts that claim 16 is not directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the originally claimed invention. Applicant respectfully requests that the restriction of claim 16 be withdrawn and the amendments be entered.

Claims 11 – 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Applicant asserts that this rejection is moot in view of the fact that claims 11 – 15 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1 through 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kocher et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,289,455, hereinafter Kocher).

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended to particularly point out that at least one ROM code is used “for decrypting *a memory module address coming from a central processing unit (CPU)*.” Support for this amendment is found in Applicant’s specification at, for example, paragraphs [0041] and [0042]. As amended, claim 1 recites:

“A circuit arrangement for electronic data processing comprising:
at least one non-volatile memory module for storing encrypted data to be protected against unauthorized access;
at least one memory module interface logic circuit in electronic communication with the memory module; said at least one memory module interface circuit being for addressing the memory module, for writing the data to the memory module, or for reading out the data from the memory module;
at least one code Read Only Memory (ROM) module for storing and/or supplying at least one ROM code; and
at least one code ROM module interface logic circuit in electronic communication with the code ROM module for addressing the code ROM module and for reading out the ROM code from the code ROM module,
wherein the at least one ROM code stored in the code ROM module is used to generate at least one key code for encrypting or decrypting data being written to the memory module or data being read from the memory module, said at least one *ROM code further being used for decrypting a memory module address coming from a central processing unit (CPU)*.” (emphasis added)

According to claim 1, address that is decrypted by the ROM code comes from a CPU and is the address of a memory module. Applicant asserts that Kocher does not disclose “at least one *ROM code further being used for decrypting a memory module address coming from a central processing unit (CPU)*” as recited in amended claim 1. Kocher does disclose that “[c]rypto-Firewall 260 regulates and cryptographically modifies data written to or read from protected

memory 265.” (col. 9, lines 39 – 41) Although Kocher discloses modifying data written to or read from protected memory, Kocher does not disclose cryptographically modifying the memory module addresses that are used to write data to or read data from the protected memory. Because Kocher does not disclose “at least one *ROM code further being used for decrypting a memory module address coming from a central processing unit (CPU)*” as recited in amended claim 1, Applicant asserts that claim 1 is not anticipated by Kocher.

Claim 2

Claim 2 has been amended to recite that the en-/decryption logic circuit has at least one key address generation unit “for generating a ROM key address using a memory module address coming from the CPU.” Support for this amendment is found in Applicant’s specification at, for example, paragraph [0039]. Applicant asserts that his limitation is not disclosed by Kocher.

Claim 16

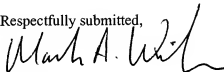
Claim 16 has been amended to include similar limitations to claim 1. Because of the similarities between claims 1 and 16, Applicant asserts that the remarks made above in regard to claim 1 apply also to claim 16.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments and remarks made herein. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Petition is hereby made under 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the time for response to the Office Action of 8/17/07 to and through 9/17/07, comprising an extension of the shortened statutory period of one month. The corresponding fee is being paid electronically.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account **50-3444** pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.25. Additionally, please charge any fees to Deposit Account **50-3444** under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21.

Respectfully submitted,



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